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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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This is UNEVALUATED

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. There is as yet no unified system of training, or even uniform, for the Kampfgruppen (KG), nor in fact any common system of formation. This is not surprising in view of the differences in size of the concerns where the KG are being formed and the differences in attitude to recruitment. Recruits, even when they volunteer, are being carefully selected. At the Kabelwerk Oberspree, no recruit is taken who has relatives in West Germany or abroad or who has been a PW in the hands of the Western allies. At the Leuna Werke "Walter Ulbricht", non-party recruits are accepted as well as members of the SED, but they are a small minority and in any case sympathizers with the SED. 25X1

2. At the Karl Liebknecht Werk, Magdeburg, the KG consists of three companies (Hundertschaften) divided into fifteen sub-groups, while at the Leuna Werke there are thirty-six groups each made up of thirty members. There is little information on the persons commanding the formations. At Leuna, the commander is also a member of the SED Kreis Committee of the works, who is assisted by two SED members from the works who train the KGs. At LEW Hennigsdorf the leader of the KG is First Secretary of the SED Works Group.

3. At the Karl Liebknecht Werk, four weeks' full-time training for the KG has been instituted at the SED party school. At the Leuna Werke, on the other hand, training takes place at any convenient time; members are taken from the works during working hours and even during the night. Training here is done at the "A-Lager" (training camp) of the Volkspolizei, members of the KG being taken to and from the training camp in police trucks. Training in all cases consists of drill and target practice with small arms, carbines, and light machine guns. At Leuna it is reported that hand-grenade throwing is also practiced.

4. Arms available to the KG vary, though generally speaking they are small arms, carbines, and machine guns. While at LEW Hennigsdorf weapons are believed to be stored at the works, this is not certain. At Leuna they are issued at the training ground, when required, by the police and re-collected by them after the exercises. Reports from LEW Hennigsdorf and the Karl Liebknecht Werk, Magdeburg,

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indicate that it was intended that the KG should march in the May Day processions with arms, but in the event they marched unarmed.

5. At the LEW Hennigsdorf the KG paraded on May Day in the brown uniform of the Gesellschaft für Sport und Technik with red arm bands and dark blue ski caps. The KG of the Karl Liebknecht Werk paraded in FDJ windbreakers, without badges, and wearing arm bands and ski caps. Members of the latter KG are now using their uniforms (issued free) for work since they are allowed to take them home.

6. The KG of the VEB Bergmann-Borsig in Berlin-Wilhelmsruh was ordered to assemble in civilian clothes on 17 June in West Berlin to protect a demonstration of FDJ members from that plant in case of conflict with the West Berlin police or the local population.

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